

In the Specification:

Please delete the paragraph spanning page 22, line 24, through page 23, line 10 of the specification and, in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(i-ii), please replace the deleted paragraph with the following paragraph:

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B1  
Figure 3 is a schematic representation of a method of identification of high-affinity binding sequences according to another embodiment of the present invention. A shows a schematic representation of the interaction between Protein A and Protein B. B, small overlapping peptides that cover the entire sequence (or a segment) of Protein A will be synthesized directly on derivatized wells of 96-well polypropylene plates. Following peptide synthesis, a radiolabelled Protein B (synthesized from *in vitro* transcription-translation reaction mix) are added to each well containing the various peptides and incubated in an incubation buffer. C, the dark filled circles represent the radiolabeled Protein B that has been added to all the wells of the 96-well plates to identify high-affinity binding sequences on Protein A. D, after a washing procedure, the high affinity binding sequences are in those wells in which Protein B (radiolabeled protein in dark) is still bound to the peptides from Protein A; thus, four high affinity binding sequences between Protein A and Protein B are identified in rows 1, 3, 6 and 8. The wells that contain the high-affinity binding sequences are identified by radiolabeled counting and SDS-PAGE;

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Remarks

In response to the Notice (a copy of which is enclosed), Applicants have amended the specification at page 22, line 24, through page 23, line 10, to correct the erroneous reference in the text to Fig. 3E instead of Fig. 3D. This amendment, which corrects a regretted typographical error, is not made for any reasons related to patentability.

Preliminary Amendment  
U.S. Serial No. 10/010,310

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii), Applicants have enclosed herewith as Appendix A a marked-up version of the amended paragraph of the specification indicating the changes.

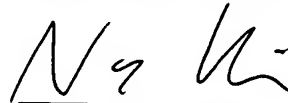
None of the above amendments adds any new subject matter to the Application as originally filed.

**Conclusions**

No fees are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, please charge any underpayments or credit any overpayments to our Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

If there are any questions, please call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,  
HALE AND DORR LLP



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Nancy Chiu, Ph.D.  
Reg. No. 43,545  
Agent for Applicant

Date: March 27, 2002

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Appendix A

Marked-Up Copy of Amended Specification Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(iii)

At page 22, line 24 through page 23, line 10:

Figure 3 is a schematic representation of a method of identification of high-affinity binding sequences according to another embodiment of the present invention. A shows a schematic representation of the interaction between Protein A and Protein B. B, small overlapping peptides that cover the entire sequence (or a segment) of Protein A will be synthesized directly on derivatized wells of 96-well polypropylene plates. Following peptide synthesis, a radiolabelled Protein B (synthesized from *in vitro* transcription-translation reaction mix) are added to each well containing the various peptides and incubated in an incubation buffer. C, the dark filled circles represent the radiolabeled Protein B that has been added to all the wells of the 96-well plates to identify high-affinity binding sequences on Protein A. D, after a washing procedure, the high affinity binding sequences are in those wells in which Protein B (radiolabeled protein in dark) is still bound to the peptides from Protein A [ E,] ; thus, four high affinity binding sequences between Protein A and Protein B are identified in rows 1, 3, 6 and 8. The wells that contain the high-affinity binding sequences are identified by radiolabeled counting and SDS-PAGE;

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/010,310	11/13/2001	Elias Georges	112418.122

 23483  
 HALE AND DORR, LLP  
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 BOSTON, MA 02109

CONFIRMATION NO. 5815

## FORMALITIES LETTER

  
 \*OC000000007379014\*

Date Mailed: 01/28/2002

## NOTICE OF OMITTED ITEM(S) IN A NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

## FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has been accorded to the above-identified nonprovisional application papers; however, the following item(s) appear to have been omitted from the application:

- Figure(s) 3E described in the specification.

I. Should applicant contend that the above-noted omitted item(s) was in fact deposited in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with the nonprovisional application papers, a copy of this Notice and a petition (and \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) with evidence of such deposit **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice. The petition fee will be refunded if it is determined that the item(s) was received by the USPTO.

II. Should applicant desire to supply the omitted item(s) and accept the date that such omitted item(s) was filed in the USPTO as the filing date of the above-identified application, a copy of this Notice, the omitted item(s) (with a supplemental oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63 and 1.64 referring to such items), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 (with the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h))) requesting the later filing date **must** be filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice.

III. The failure to file a petition (and petition fee) under the above options (I) or (II) within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice (37 CFR 1.181(f)) will be treated as a constructive acceptance by the applicant of the application as deposited in the USPTO. **THIS TWO MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b).** In the absence of a timely filed petition in reply to this Notice, the application will maintain a filing date as of the date of deposit of the application papers in the USPTO, and original application papers (*i.e.*, the original disclosure of the invention) will include only those application papers present in the USPTO on the date of deposit.

In the event that applicant elects not to take action pursuant to options (I) or (II) above (thereby constructively electing option (III)), amendment of the specification to renumber the pages consecutively and cancel incomplete sentences caused by any omitted page(s), and/or amendment of the specification to cancel all references to any omitted drawing(s), relabel the drawing figures to be numbered consecutively (if necessary), and correct the references in the specification to the drawing figures to correspond with any relabelled drawing figures, is required. Any drawing changes should be accompanied by a copy of the drawing figures showing the proposed changes in red ink. Such amendment and/or correction to the drawing figures, if necessary, should be by way of preliminary amendment submitted prior to the first Office action to avoid delays in the prosecution of the application.

*A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.*

Y.G.  
Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202  
PART 1 - ATTORNEY/APPLICANT COPY

HALE & DORR DOCKETING  
RE: 112418.122  
Action Date: 3/28/02  
Action to be Taken: D/D  
Docketed by: AA On: 2/01/02